

Wholesome Meats, LLC 122 East Houston Street, Suite 105 San Antonio, Texas 78205

### **Wholesome Meats' Mission Statement:**

Wholesome Meats requires that all animals bearing our label are raised responsibly through well managed practices to ensure their well being, and all agricultural practices uphold our environmental standards. It is the policy of Wholesome Meats to adhere to certain primary areas of management that warrant the best possible raising conditions for its cattle, and the land upon which the cattle is raised. The protocols below describe these conditions.

# **Producer Requirements:**

Our Wholesome Meats, LLC Producer Protocols & Requirements must be signed and returned to Wholesome Meats every calendar year.

Please email to: producer@getwholesome.com; or mail to Wholesome Meats, LLC 122 E. Houston St., Suite 105 San Antonio, TX 78205.

After you review the contents of this document should you have any questions or concerns please contact our Producer Liaison, Kyle Bartholomew at (210) 201-2379.

## **Producer Protocols:**

### 1. Diet Requirements

### Permitted

- A. Pasture forages defined as any edible herbaceous plant material that can be grazed or harvested for feeding, with the exception of grain.
- B. Summer and Winter annuals planted for grazing purposes.
- C. Grazing is not allowed once annual forages mature to seed.
- D. Molasses tubs (all-natural, no urea).
- E. Minerals and salt (we highly recommend the use of loose minerals and salt available free-choice to the cattle). Mineral and vitamin supplements must not contain any ingredients that are prohibited.
- F. All of the forages listed above may be fed as stored forage

### **Prohibited**

- A. Grains or grain by-products
- B. Dried distiller grains
- C. Genetically modified or engineered plant or ingredient
- D. Animal or fish by-products
- E. No genetically modified crops allowed (GMOs)

### 2. Holistic Planned Grazing

- A. Holistic planned grazing management is required during the growing season.
- B. Cattle must be allowed to express their full genetic potential by naturally grazing the land either during the growing season or dormant.
- C. Ongoing feeding of stored forages in confinement lots suitable for the number of head present for more than several weeks is only permitted during severe drought or adverse weather conditions.
- D. We encourage all of our producers to practice the 5 Soil Health Principles established by the United States Department of Agriculture including 1) armor the soil, 2) minimize soil disturbance, 3) plant diversity, 4) continual live plant/root, and 5) livestock integration.

For more information regarding the 5 Soil Health Principles please visit this link (https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/soils/health/).

E. Pastures for Profit Guide to Rotational Grazing

#### 3. Animal Welfare

- A. No antibiotics, whether sub-therapeutic (mixed with feed), or therapeutic (intramuscular shots or IV).
- B. No artificial/synthetic hormones, steroid, growth enhancer or beta-antagonists.
- C. No animal by-products (bone-meal, hog fat, etc.).

# 4. Veterinary Care

- A. We want you to treat your sick animals, however, all veterinary treatments including antibiotics, vaccines, and/or worming treatments must be recorded in a record keeping system, including ear tag numbers, and the animal must be pulled from the herd. This system must be kept, and available to review upon request.
  - a. Animals treated with any prohibited substances must be segregated from the herd and this segregation must be documented.

### 5. Low-Stress Stockmanship

- A. Humane handling procedures in loading, trucking and restraint for slaughter are required.
- B. If you aren't familiar with low-stress stockmanship techniques, we recommend attending a low-stress handling school (<a href="https://stockmanship.com/">https://stockmanship.com/</a>).

#### 6. Pesticides/Herbicides/Insecticides/Fertilizers

## **Permitted**

- A. Individual plant treatment of invasive species when all other options are exhausted.
- B. Treated non-grazed fence lines when all other options are exhausted.

C. We strongly discourage the use of synthetic wormers/external parasite control. Please use natural options if possible.

### **Prohibited**

- A. Use of any synthetic chemical pesticides or herbicides during the grazing season. We strongly discourage the use of pesticides and herbicides. If use occurs the pasture must be differed from grazing for 6 months.
- B. Glyphosate use is prohibited on grazed pasture.
- C. Insecticide ear tags are not allowed.
- D. Synthetic fertilizers are not allowed.

### 7. Carcass Quality & Consistency

<u>Visual inspection – all cattle must be inspected, looking for the following:</u>

- A. Proper phenotype typically found in 100% British breed cattle: Black/Red Angus, Hereford, British White, Highlander, Shorthorn, etc.
- B. Functional endocrine system (glandular functionality).
- C. Calm disposition.
- D. No Bulls.

#### 8. Verification of Source

- A. Born and raised in the USA.
- B. All cattle must be identified with an ID tag or visible marking.
- C. Each load of cattle must include a signed producer affidavit identifying each animal with ID tag number, breed, age and hide color.
- D. Affidavits must accompany the cattle to the processing plant.
- E. The producer must sign and date the affidavit, which certified that the cattle they are selling to Wholesome Meats, LLC have been raised according to the Producer Protocol & Requirements contained within this document.

10. Producer Agreement

On this date, I am entering into an agreement for the sale of livestock on credit to Wholesome

Meats, LLC, and I understand that in doing so I will have no rights under the trust provisions of

section 206 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 as amended (U.S.C. 196, Pub L.94-410),

with respect to any such credit sale. The written agreement for such selling on credit provides

that it will remain in effect until canceled in writing by either party.

I have read and understand this protocol. I guarantee that all the cattle I supply to Wholesome

Meats, LLC will be raised in accordance with the above terms and conditions.

This guarantee will continue in force until I revoke it in writing.

Seller Information: Please Print	
Name:	
Address:	
<u>City:</u>	
State: Zip:	
Phone:	
Email:	

Mail To: 122 E Houston Street, Suite 105, San Antonio, TX 78202

or

Scan and Email to: <a href="mailto:kyle@getwholesome.com">kyle@getwholesome.com</a>

Sign:\_\_\_\_\_

Date: